

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/634,461

D2 ~~Sub E1~~
5. (Twice Amended) A method for producing graphite carbon powder according to claim 4, wherein graphite material is inserted between the end of the container and the guide electrode to prevent heat loss at the end of the graphite container.

D3 ~~Sub E1~~
14. (Amended) An electrode material for a lithium-ion secondary battery which makes use of the graphite carbon powder as described in claim 9.

Please add new claim 15 as follows.

D4
15. (New) A method for producing graphite carbon powder according to claim 1, wherein the container has guide electrodes disposed on opposite ends thereof and in electrical contact with the container, and said step of supplying electrical current directly to the container comprises applying a power source across said guide electrodes.
~~Sub E1~~